

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

Educational Program	
Educators	Grades 5–8

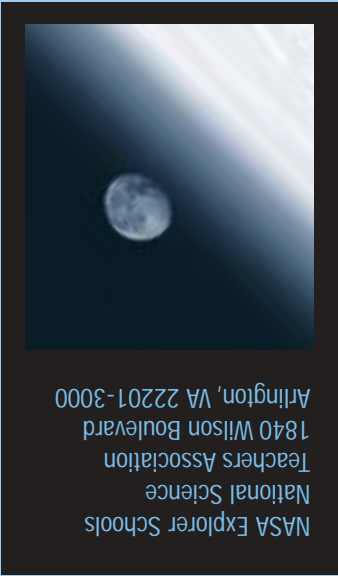
EP-2003-02-410-HQ



See Learning in a Whole New Light

# NASA Explorer Schools 2003

<http://explorerschools.nasa.gov>



Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Merrifield, VA  
Permit No. 1276

For detailed information and the program application, visit <http://explorerschools.nasa.gov>  
Applications due by April 4, 2003

Become a NASA Explorer School and partner with NASA to bring exciting and unique opportunities to educators, students, and families. The 2003 program will focus on NASA content at grades 5–8.

NASA Explorer School teams, working with NASA personnel and other partners, will develop an action plan that addresses a local need in mathematics, science, or technology that incorporates NASA data and materials into their curriculum. Throughout a three-year commitment, educator teams will implement their action plan, participate in professional development, and involve students and families.

Educators and students in a NASA Explorer School will become involved in the excitement of NASA research, discoveries, and missions by:

- participating in engaging NASA learning adventures and scientific challenges,
- solving NASA-related design problems,
- conducting scientific collaborations and discussions, and
- collecting and using authentic NASA data.



# A Three-Year Program for:

## Educators/Administrators:

1. Participate in customized, sustained professional development in the following:
  - science, technology, and mathematics content areas at grade levels 5–8,
  - the use of investigation, problem-solving, and design challenge teaching materials,
  - educational technology-based teaching/learning tools including NASA content resources, and
  - the use of the content discoveries of NASA to demonstrate the application of science, mathematics, and technology to meet school curriculum frameworks.
2. Attend an all-expenses-paid one-week professional development workshop at one of the 10 NASA Field Centers.
3. Receive a \$500 stipend for full participation in the summer 2003 workshop.
4. Receive a \$500 stipend for implementing the team's action plan during the 2003 school year.
5. May earn graduate or professional development credit.

A NASA School Team consists of four or five educators/administrators who will lead the local effort and participate in the NASA summer workshop and the ongoing professional development during the academic year. All team members must be U.S. citizens, and at least one member of the team must have experience with a NASA program.

## Students:

1. Participate in authentic NASA science and technology experiences.
2. Apply NASA science, mathematics, and technology knowledge to real-world issues and problems.
3. Access unique NASA resources and materials.
4. Learn about NASA careers in mathematics, science, engineering, and technology.

## Families:

1. Increase involvement in the child's education.
2. Access interactive online NASA learning adventures.
3. Participate in other special opportunities.

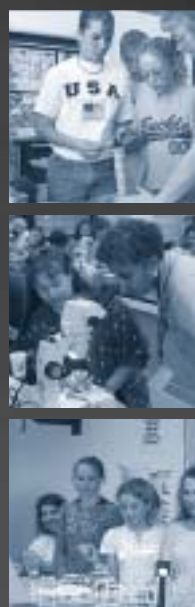
## Schools:

1. Be identified as a NASA Explorer School.
2. Partner with NASA to improve student learning.
3. Receive grants up to \$10,000 (subject to availability of funds) to assist with the implementation of the NASA Explorer School team action plan.
4. Develop associations with professional organizations.

All workshops and communications are in English.

## Program Objectives

- Increase student interest and participation in science, mathematics, and technology;
- Increase student knowledge about careers in science, mathematics, and technology;
- Increase student ability to apply science, mathematics, and technology concepts;
- Increase the active participation and professional growth of educators in science, mathematics, and technology;
- Increase family involvement in student learning; and
- Increase the academic assistance for and technology use by educators in schools with high populations of underserved students.



**Ames Research Center**  
Moffett Field, California

**Dryden Flight Research Center**  
Edwards, California

**Glenn Research Center**  
Cleveland, Ohio

**Goddard Space Flight Center**  
Greenbelt, Maryland

**Kennedy Space Center**  
Kennedy Space Center, Florida

**Langley Research Center**  
Hampton, Virginia

**Jet Propulsion Laboratory**  
Pasadena, California

**Johnson Space Center**  
Houston, Texas

**Marshall Space Flight Center**  
Huntsville, Alabama

**Stennis Space Center**  
Mississippi

The NASA Explorer Schools program is sponsored and implemented by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) through a cooperative agreement with the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA).



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